

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00272 110924Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0272

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, TPHY, BU (MARINOV, STEFAN MARINOV)
SUBJECT: MARINOV CASE

REF: A) STATE 020933; B) STATE 019416; C) SOFIA 0145;
D) STATE 014547

1. DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO TWO-PAGE ARTICLLZIN
THE ECONOMIST (LONDON) ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 5, PAGES 786 AND 79,

ENTITLED "EINSTEIN CHALLENGED" WHICH DEALS WITH CONFERENCE
ON "SPACE-TIME ABSOLUTENESS" SLATED FOR BULGARIA THIS SPRING
AND CITES AS ORGANIZER STEFAN MARINOV OF THE SOFIA LABORATORY
FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICAL PROBLEMS. ARTICLE SUGGESTS THAT
MARINOV'S VIEWS ARE SUPPORTED BY "SCATTERED MINORITY OF
THE WORLD'S SCIENTISTS" AND CONCLUDES AS FOLLOWS:

2. "IF MARINOV IS RIGHT, HE WILL HAVE DEMOLISHED ONE OF THE
FOUNDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL THEORY (OF RELATIVITY)... MARINOV
CLAIMS HE HAS IN FACT DEMONSTRATED ABSOLUTE MOTION. BUT
THERE MUST BE SOME DOUBTS ABOUT HOW GOOD HIS BULGARIAN EQUIP-
MENT IS, AND HE WOULD LIKE HIS EXPERIMENTS TO BE REPEATED
BY OTHER SCIENTISTS ON MORE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT.
ANY TAKERS?"

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3. WE DRAW ATTENTION TO THIS ARTICLE BECAUSE IT SEEMS
TO US THAT WHETHER OR NOT THE CONTEMPLATED CONFERENCE
TAKES PLACE, MARINOV IS NOW VERY LIKELY TO BECOME SUBJECT
OF MUCH GREATER INTERNATIONAL INTEREST, INCLUDING PRESS
INTEREST; AND HIS CLAIMS ABOUT MISTREATMENT BY THE BUL-
GARIAN GOVERNMENT (AND BY OUR EMBASSY) MAY THUS RECEIVE
PROMINENCE. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PREPARE A CONTINGENCY

PRESS GUIDANCE.

4. RE OTHER ASPECTS OF MARINOV CASE, WE HAVE SEARCHED MARINE DAILY LOGS AND INCIDENT REPORT FILE FOR FIRST TEN DAYS OF APRIL 1974. THEY CONTAIN NEITHER MENTION NOR REFERENCE TO MARINOV INCIDENT. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEES WHO OBSERVED INCIDENT TO PREPARE WRITTEN DESCRIPTIONS. THESE WILL BE POUCHED EUR/EE, ATTENTION MOSHER. THEY STATE THAT MARINOV WAS REMOVED BY BULGARIAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL, ASSISTED BY AT LEAST ONE U.S. MARINE; AND THAT MARINOV RESISTED STRONGLY AND HAD TO BE FORCIBLY SUBDUED. THEY DO NOT SHED ANY LIGHT ON WHO MADE DECISION TO HAVE MARINOV REMOVED; ON WHY THAT DECISION WAS MADE; OR ON WHO PLACED THE TELEPHONE CALL WHICH INVITED BULGARIAN MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO ENTER EMBASSY PREMISES TO REMOVE MARINOV.

5. MARINOV RETURNED TO EMBASSY JANUARY 24 TO PRESENT "CLAIM STATEMENT". IT ESSENTIALLY ADDS NOTHING TO HIS EARLIER WRITTEN ACCOUNT AND NOTES HE IS UNABLE TO PRESENT DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT CLAIM FOR FEAR OF FURTHER HARRASSMENT FROM AUTHORITIES TO WHOM HE WOULD HAVE TO RESORT FOR DOCUMENTS. STATEMENT ALSO NOTES HE HAS A BROTHER, NICHOLAS MARINOV, LIVING AT 4 WEBB ST, SYDNEY, NSW 2060, AUSTRALIA.

6. CONSUL ORALLY INFORMED MARINOV THAT HIS STATEMENT COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED A CLAIM IN PROPER FORM, AND ALSO PER REF D, PARA 2, THAT EVEN IF PRESENTED IN PROPER FORM
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CLAIM WOULD HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT USG WAS LIABLE UNDER LOCAL LAW TO EXTENT THAT A PRIVATE PERSON WAS LIABLE IF PLACED IN THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES. MARINOV ONCE AGAIN ASKED WHETHER USG COULD FINANCIALLY ASSIST HIM IN PUBLICATION OF HIS BOOK, AND WAS ONCE AGAIN TOLD THIS NOT POSSIBLE. HE THEN AGAIN ASKED FOR LETTER STATING THAT HE HAS NO VALID CLAIM AGAINST USG.

7. IN REF C, PARA 5, EMBASSY SUGGESTED GIVING MARINOV A LETTER STATING DOCUMENTATION NECESSARY FOR EMBASSY TO INVESTIGATE HIS CLAIM HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED AND THEREFORE EMBASSY CAN TAKE NO ACTION. DEPT APPROVED

THIS SUGGESTION IN REF B. OUR RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH MARINOV, HOWEVER, HAVE LED US TO DOUBT WHETHER THIS SHOULD BE DONE. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT MARINOV MIGHT USE SUCH A LETTER IN CONNECTION WITH PUBLICITY FOR HIS FORTHCOMING "CONFERENCE", PERHAPS TO CHARGE USG COLLUSION WITH GOBIDN PERSECUTING HIM, IN NOT DEALING

EQUITABLY WITH HIM, ETC.

8. ACCORDINGLY REQUEST THIS MATTER BE ONCE AGAIN
REVIEWED, AND EMBASSY RE-INSTRUCTED. WE WOULD ALSO
APPRECIATE A CHANCE TO COMMENT ON CONTINGENCY PRESS
GUIDANCE SUGGESTED IN PARA 3 ABOVE.
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